



PDHS REVIEW

Newsletter of the
Pond Dakota Heritage Society

Volume 12 Issue 3

**Bloomington,
Minnesota
July 2015**

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www.PondDakota.org is now online!

Our new website tells the Pond Dakota story from multiple viewpoints, providing many resources such as an interactive list of books that were translated into the Dakota language, historical maps, Dakota history references, and much more. We will continue to grow the site with videos, photographs, and a timeline. Be sure to check out the event calendar!

Dakota Language Camp

Tuesday - Thursday, July 7 - 9, 10am - 3pm
Pond Dakota Mission Park

Announcing our 6th annual Dakota Language Camp at Pond Dakota Mission Park! Learn the Dakota language through Dakota games, crafts, songs, dancing, and foods. The camp, a joint venture of Bloomington Parks and Rec and the Dakota Language Department of the U of M, welcomes both Dakota and non-Dakota children and their families. More info: Jay Ludwig 952-484-0477 or jludwig@BloomingtonMN.gov. Cost: \$40 per person, includes lunch. Full scholarships are available.



Events at Pond Dakota Mission Park

The Pond House is open year round on Sundays from 1:30 – 4 p.m. Admission to programs and tours is free for Pond Dakota Heritage Society members and youth through high school. Suggested donation of \$2 for non-member adults.

JULY

Frontier Games

Sunday, July 5 Drop-in program, 2-4 pm

Try your hand at several frontier games, and make a Thaumatrope and a Whirligig to take home. See how simple household items were fashioned into toys that entertained children for hours.

Ulysses Underground: The Unexplored Roots of U. S. Grant and the Underground Railroad Saturday, July 11, 2 pm

G.L. Corum's groundbreaking research illuminates a 70-year antebellum effort to allow those with darker skin the full benefits of a democracy without severing the United States. The book also explores the conflict between those pushing overtly and covertly to end slavery, and Ulysses' place in the crux of it all. Corum's work includes much information about the families who were missionaries to the Dakota in Minnesota. The book will be available for purchase and signing.

Open House Sunday, July 12, 1:30-4 pm

A letter written by Gideon in 1834 during his first summer at Chief Cloud Man's village at Lake Calhoun will be featured in tours of the Pond House. Gideon describes a very unrestful Sunday!

Open House Sunday, July 19, 1:30-4 pm

John P. Williamson and Edward Pond both followed in their father's footsteps as missionaries to the Dakota. Discover their amazing stories as you tour the Pond House.

Open House Sunday, July 26, 1:30-4 pm

The summer of 1835 Gideon built a mission and schoolhouse at Lake Harriet for Rev. Jedediah Stevens. Discover where it was located and how Gideon and his brother Samuel were pressured into living there, during tours of the Pond House.

AUGUST

Construct a Mini Tipi

Drop-in program, 2-4 pm. Sunday, August 2

Make and decorate your own canvas model tipi to take home. Learn some Dakota words, and find out why Dakota people needed homes they could easily move. Discover why this month of August is so significant for Dakota people everywhere.

Open House Sunday, August 9, 1:30-4 pm

Tours of the Pond House today will be led by Dr. Thomas Williamson, missionary colleague of Gideon and Samuel Pond, portrayed by one of his descendants, our own Jeff Williamson.

The Doctrine of Discovery

Sunday August 16, 2 pm

Sheldon Wolfchild, president of 38 Plus 2 Productions, will speak about his great, great, grandfather, Medicine Bottle, before, during, and after the war of 1862 - his capture, trial, and hanging. Sheldon will show excerpts of his latest documentary, *The Doctrine of Discovery: Unmasking the Domination Code*, and copies will be for sale.

Open House Sunday, August 23, 1:30-4 pm

While touring the Pond House, learn about the Treaty of Mendota of 1851, where how Gideon interpreted for Governor Ramsey and Luke Lea who acted as commissioners. Little Crow and many other Dakota chiefs were present.

Open House Sunday, August 30, 1:30-4 pm

It's wild rice harvest time! While touring the house, see samples of wild rice in its various stages of preparation, and learn how important this food was for Native Americans and white settlers on the Minnesota frontier.

SEPTEMBER

Open House Sunday, September 6, 1:30-4 pm

Back to school this week! Tour the Pond House, then learn to read and write the Dakota alphabet, first devised by Gideon and his brother Samuel during the summer of 1834.

Open House Sunday, September 13, 1:30-4 pm

Gideon and Sarah Pond welcomed their first child, Ruth, on September 16, 1838. Tours of the Pond House today will focus on the lineage of this large family which eventually included 16 children!

Sunday, September 20

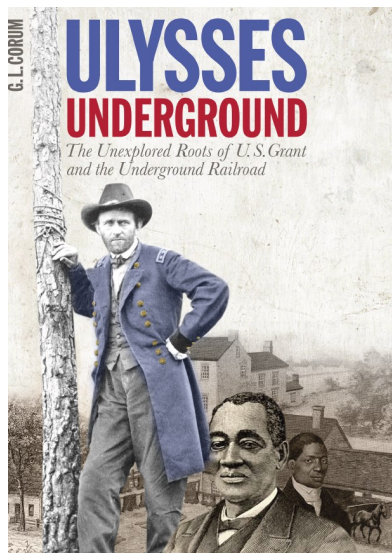
The house will be closed in preparation for River Rendezvous.

Open House Sunday, September 27, 1:30-4 pm

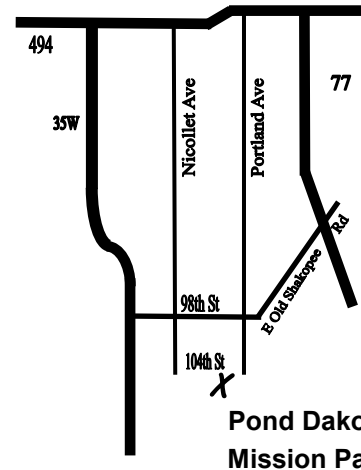
Joseph Renville, a frontier fur trader of both French Canadian and Dakota descent, played an important role in the missionaries' work with the Dakota. His contributions will be featured today in tours of the Pond House.

Lac qui Parle Mission Sunday
Montevideo, MN 56265
Sunday July 12

The church service is at 10:30 am with Pastor Fern Cloud and a Dakota choir. Potluck at noon. G.L. Corum will speak on *Ulysses Underground: The Unexplored Roots of U. S. Grant and the Underground Railroad* at the afternoon program at 1 pm. For program description, see July 11 above. <http://sites.mnhs.org/historic-sites/lac-qui-parle-mission>.



Pond Dakota Mission Park
401 East 104th Street
Bloomington, MN 55420



Interpretive signs describing the history of the Dakota in the Minnesota River Valley, and Gideon and Samuel Pond, missionaries who arrived in 1834, are located along the walking trails in the park. The 1856 Gideon and Agnes Pond House is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The park is open daily until 10 pm.

For more information about Pond Dakota Mission Park or private tours of the Gideon and Agnes Pond House, contact Mark Morrison, City of Bloomington Parks and Recreation, 952-563-8693, or mmorrison@BloomingtonMN.gov.

More about the Pond House at
www.BloomingtonMN.gov

Follow us on Facebook
www.facebook.com/GideonAgnesPondHouse

**Pond Dakota Heritage Society**

The Pond Dakota Heritage Society discovers, preserves, promotes, and shares historical knowledge about the Dakota and white settlements in Minnesota in the 1800s. PDHS sponsors programs, lectures, and events for all ages, many of which are held at the Gideon and Agnes Pond House, which is owned and operated by the City of Bloomington. Annual Membership: Individual \$20, Household \$30, Sustaining \$100-\$499, Benefactor \$500 or more. For more info, email ponddakota@gmail.com. Follow us on Facebook at facebook.com/PondDakota.

Pond Dakota Heritage Society
P.O Box 20511
Bloomington, MN 55420

Return Service Requested

PDHS Officers for 2015

President - Sheila Strobel Smith
Vice-President – Stephen Osman
Secretary – Rod Myers
Treasurer - Jay Ludwig
Members at Large - Larry Granger,
Vonda Kelly, Jeff Williamson,
Candy Williamson

River Rendezvous

Thursday September 24, 4:00 to 8:30 p.m.

One of the finest living history events in the Midwest returns to Pond Dakota Mission Park in Bloomington. Over 50 costumed re-enactors will demonstrate 19th century Native American life including dance performances, early pioneer life and trades, plants and animals, the fur trade, wilderness skills, and fun and games through authentic hands-on experiences. Tours of the restored 1856 Gideon and Agnes Pond House will be given throughout the evening. Admission is \$6, children under 4 are free. For more info visit www.BloomingtonMN.gov or call Mark Morrison at 952-563-8693.

